

Coastal Wetlands Investigation

Why are coastal wetlands considered the most endangered part of our ecosystem? Learn how and why wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring salt and brackish marshes on a remote island in the Chesapeake Bay. This field course will be based at Port Isobel, an education facility owned and operated by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and located near Tangier Island in the middle of the Chesapeake.

Date: Monday and Tuesday, June 3 and 4, 2013

Location: Port Isobel. Meet at the Smith Point Marina for the boat.

Overnight Lodging and meals will be provided.

Fee: \$30 (Must be received by April 12 to guarantee spot.)

Advanced Watershed Education Training Workshops

How to Conduct a Professional Development Workshop for Teachers

As a nonformal educator are you being asked to hold a professional development workshop for teachers in your area of expertise? This might feel a little overwhelming! Join other nonformal educators to develop a template that can be used no matter the topic and network with others to share tricks of the trade.

Date: Friday, October 19, 2012

Location: First Landing State Park, Virginia Beach

Fee: \$10

Who wants to camp overnight? We can reserve the group campground!

Short Programs for the Classroom with a Focus on MWEE

Are you being invited to present in classrooms, but feel unsure of how to meet the teacher's curriculum needs and tailor the pertinent information into a short time frame? Come learn how to design a short program around a specific focus or investigative question.

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Location: The Rice Center, Charles City

Fee: \$10

Paddling and Boat Safety

Are you interested in taking students out in canoes on a lake or a river? Come learn what you need to know to lead a safe and successful trip. In the morning we'll discuss the basics of leading a trip on water and in the afternoon you'll practice what you've learned on the river.

Date: April 19, 2013

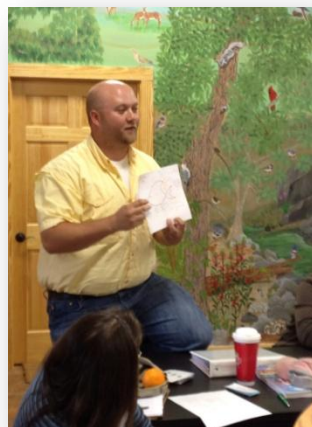
Location: James River State Park, Buckingham

Fee: \$10

Who wants to camp overnight? We can reserve the group campground!

2012-2013 Watershed Educators Institute

The Watershed Educators Institute is a series of one and two day workshops offered from September 2012 through June of 2013 for those desiring to be formally recognized as leaders in watershed education in the state of Virginia.



Required pre-requisite for all participants:

What is an effective MWEE?

Being able to understand and define a meaningful watershed educational experience is the first step in becoming a watershed educator. This half hour on-line course will ensure that you are starting with a firm foundation and clear understanding. The reading will be followed by a few questions. By answering these questions you will indicate that you are ready to move through the Watershed Educators Institute. Go to <http://www.bayeducation.net/MBE.pdf> for the required reading. After you register you will be emailed the link for the questions as well as a username and password.



To receive a Certificate of Recognition as a Watershed Leader for the Commonwealth of Virginia you must complete five workshops. The following is a brief description of the workshops including their dates and locations. Otherwise, you may simply take some of the workshops to increase your personal skills and knowledge.

Lunch and snacks will be provided at all workshops.

Fees need to be received at least 2 weeks before the workshop unless otherwise noted. Checks should be made out to "VRUEC" and sent to DEQ, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218. Attn: Page Hutchinson.

To register: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WEI2012-2013>

For more information, contact Page Hutchinson at 804-698-4488 or Page.Hutchinson@deq.virginia.gov

Basic Watershed Education Training Workshops

Designing and Leading a MWEE for School Groups

Required workshop for anyone desiring to receive a Certificate of Recognition as a Watershed Leader for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This workshop will provide a framework for developing effective teacher-led MWEEs that result in specific student driven action projects. Together we will explore the three phases of preparation, action and reflection. In the afternoon you will have a chance to begin planning your own seasonal or yearlong action project. Participants will receive CBFs *Guide to Creating a MWEE* and U.S. Fish and Wildlife's *Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide*.

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2012

or Thursday, January 17, 2013

Location: Charles E. Brown Park, Yorktown

Fee: \$10

Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 1

What does the dissolved oxygen or pH level indicate about the health of a stream? What do macro invertebrates indicate about the health of a stream? During this workshop you will come to understand the many facets that indicate the health of a watershed through chemical and biological assessment. Participants will receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual*.

Date: Thursday, September 20, 2012

Location: Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point

Fee: \$10

Assessing the Health of a Watershed – Part 2

Are there ways to teach students about riparian zones, point and nonpoint source pollution, run off, impervious surfaces, and land use without boring lectures? You bet there are! Join us for a day of exploration and inquiry based activities.

Participants who did not receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People Educator's Guide* and *Field Testing Manual* in Part 1 will receive the set in this workshop.

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Location: Belle Isle State Park, Lancaster (Northern Neck)

Fee: \$10

Facilitator Training with Project WET or Project WILD

Are you interested in training other educators both formal and nonformal? Then this two day workshop is the one for you. The first day will focus on basic facilitator skills including what makes a good workshop, learning styles, questioning skills, and knowing your audience. The second day you will receive training in either *Project WET* or *Project WILD*. You will receive the guides and other materials associated with the curriculum you choose. **Completing this training commits you to conducting at least one workshop for educators within the next year.**

Date: Thursday, February 7 and Friday, February 8, 2013

Location: First Landing State Park, Virginia Beach

Overnight lodging and meals provided. Lodging is for Feb. 6 and Feb. 7.

Deposit: \$50 (Must be received by Jan. 18. Deposit will be returned upon arrival at workshop)

Introducing Watersheds

Come join us in the many engaging, hands on activities that can be used to help students understand what a watershed is and how human impacts play a role in the health of the watershed. Participants will receive the book *Discover a Watershed: The Watershed Manager*.

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2013

Location: Virginia Aquarium, Virginia Beach

Fee: \$10

Freshwater Wetlands Investigation

What makes freshwater wetlands unique? Learn how and why freshwater wetlands play such important roles in water quality and for living resources. Learn to identify key species while spending time exploring freshwater marshes on foot and by canoe. Participants will receive the book *The Wonders of Wetlands*.

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2013

Location: Great Dismal Swamp, Suffolk

Fee: \$10